

Categorical Exclusion Not Established by Statute
CX Number: DOI-BLM-WY-D030-2016-0073-CX

A. BACKGROUND

BLM Office: Rawlins Field Office

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: CF#4916112, Allotment #00827 Pass Creek Ridge, #00828 Wilson Pasture, #00840 Soil Bank Pasture, #00844 Pass Creek Flats, #00847 Home Pasture, and #00829 Dana Meadows South.

Proposed Action Title/Type: Transfer of grazing preference from Hooks Ranch to Burnett Ranches, LLC.

Location of Proposed Action: Township(s) 19, 20, 21, 22 North, Range(s) 80, 81, 82, 83, 84 West

Description of the Proposed Action:

B. LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE

Land Use Plan Name: Record of Decision and Approved Rawlins Resource Management Plan
Date Approved/Amended: December 24, 2008/September 21, 2015

The proposed action is in conformance with the Land Use Plan (LUP), because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

- Section 2.3.6 Livestock Grazing
- p. 2-18: Management Goal
- 1. Maintain and/or enhance livestock grazing opportunities and rangeland health.

C: COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9(D)(1) or 43 CFR 46.210:

- D. Rangeland management
- 1. "Approval of transfer of grazing preference".

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR 46.215 apply. These circumstances, and the rationale specific to this categorical exclusion, are listed and described in Table 1.

I considered the proposed transfer of grazing preference from Hooks Ranch to Burnett Ranches, LLC in my evaluation, and find that the Proposed Action would not have any effects that may significantly affect the environment.

D: AUTHORIZED OFFICER SIGNATURE



Dennis J. Carpenter
Field Manager

Date **MAR 04 2016**

Contact Person

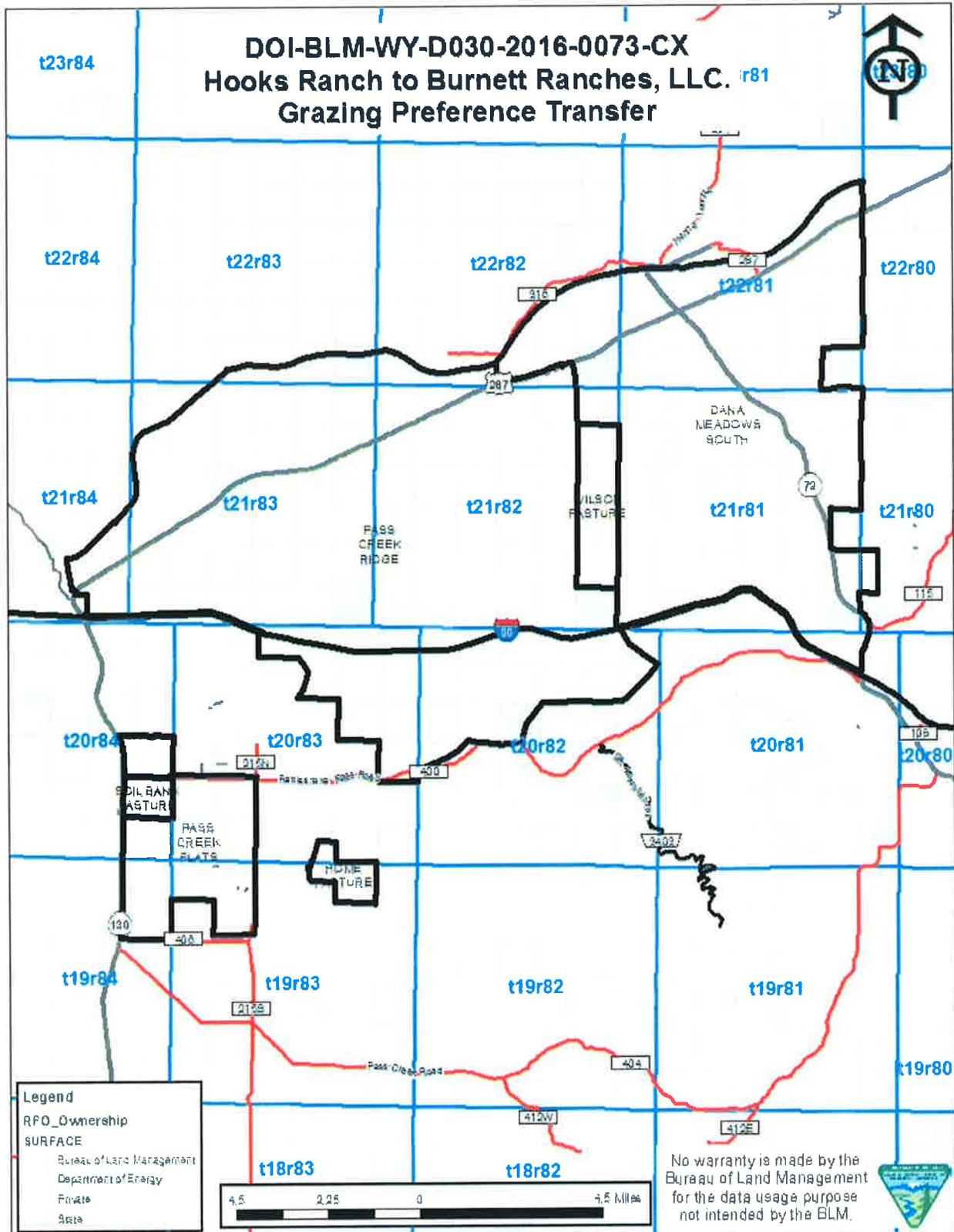
For additional information concerning this CX review, contact: Mike D. Murry, Rangeland Management Specialist, Rawlins Field Office, PO Box 2407, Rawlins, WY 82301, or you may call (307) 328-4253.

Table 1. Extraordinary Circumstances

	Extraordinary Circumstances	Affected Yes/No	Rationale
(a)	Have significant impacts on public health or safety.	No	The proposed project would not affect public health or safety.
(b)	Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.	No	The proposed action would have no significant impact to natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historical or cultural resources.
(c)	Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (National Environmental Policy Act Section 102(2)(E)).	No	The proposed action would have no highly controversial environmental effects or conflicts concerning alternatives use to resources.
(d)	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.	No	No significant environmental effects or unknown risks have been identified.
(e)	Establish precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about a future consideration with significant environmental effects.	No	The proposed action will not establish future precedents.
(f)	Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.	No	The Proposed Action, when considered with other actions in the area, would not have cumulatively significant environmental effects to BLM lands and/or resources.
(g)	Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by the bureau.	No	The proposed action would result in no significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
(h)	Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical habitat for these species.	No	The proposed action would have no significant impacts on species listed, or proposed for listing as Threatened or Endangered, or result in significant impacts to identified Critical habitats.
(i)	Violate a Federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.	No	The Proposed Action would not violate a Federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or a requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.
(j)	Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).	No	The Proposed Action would not have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations.
(k)	Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).	No	The proposed project would not limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.

	Extraordinary Circumstances	Affected Yes/No	Rationale
(l)	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).	No	As proposed, the project design features would ensure that this project would not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species.

MAP 1



APPENDIX A
Special Terms & Conditions

The following Terms and Conditions are in addition to those incorporated in the Proposed Action and Applicant Committed Environmental Protection Measures.

1. As a result of this grazing preference transfer, all associated use dates (i.e. grazing begin and end periods) and classes of livestock for the assigned grazing allotments, will remain the same and unchanged.

2. There have been no modifications to existing permit/lease terms and conditions.